

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 EUR-12 SCS-06 SSO-00 IO-13
PC-01 AID-05 ACDA-12 ARA-10 EA-10 MCT-01 HA-05
CCO-00 FBOE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSC-05
SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 CA-01 A-01
OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /155 R

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APPROVED BY:STF:WLSWING
EUR/NE:WNEWLIN
EUR/WE:JDOBBINS
SCS:SHOPKINS
S/S-O:JTHYDEN

-----111755 161215Z /72

O P 160836Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123886

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, PINS, CASC

SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS WITH FRENCH AND BELGIANS ON SHABA

REF: A) STATE 122792, B) ROME 8839, C)BRAZZAVILLE 0L08
D) KINSHASA 4796 (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS IT VERY IMPORTANT THAT ACTION
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ADDRESSEES STIMULATE REGULAR, IN DEPTH DIALOGUE WITH
RESPECTIVE HOST GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING CURRENT SITUATION IN
SHABA.

2. AT PRESENT THERE ARE TWO KEY AREAS IN PARTICULAR IN
WHICH WE REQUIRE GREATER INFORMATION ON THEIR RESPEC-
TIVE INTENTIONS THAN WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN THUS FAR.

3. WE NEED TO KNOW THEIR CURRENT THINKING, INCLUDING SOMETHING OF THEIR CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR THE PROTECTION AND EVENTUAL EVACUATION OF THEIR NATIONALS IN THE ZONE OF HOSTILITIES. WE HAVE NO CLEAR-CUT IDEA FROM EITHER THE BELGIANS OR THE FRENCH AS TO THEIR THINKING IN THIS REGARD, NOR OF ANY PLANS THEY MAY HAVE TO COORDINATE EVACUATION WITH ONE ANOTHER OR WITH OTHERS INCLUDING OURSELVES. THIS INFORMATION COULD, DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES, BE KEY TO OUR OWN EVACUATION PLANS.

4. WE ARE EQUALLY IN THE DARK CONCERNING THE LIKELY BELGIAN AND FRENCH POLICY RESPONSES TO MOBUTU'S APPEAL FOR SUPPORT. SIMONET TELEVISION STATEMENT REPORTEDLY INDICATED THAT GOB IS UNLIKELY TO COMMIT BELGIAN TROOPS IN CONFLICT, AND FRENCH HAVE, WE UNDERSTAND, DECLINED GOZ REQUEST THAT THEY TAKE PART IN PLANNED BUT SUBSEQUENTLY POSTPONED PARATROOP DROP ON KOLWEZI MAY 16. WE AGREE WITH AMBASSADOR CUTLER (REF D) THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF WE COULD DEVELOP TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, A COMMON ASSESSMENT AND COURSE OF ACTION TOWARD ZAIRE'S CURRENT SECURITY CRISIS.

5. YOU SHOULD APPROACH RESPECTIVE HOST GOVERNMENTS SOONEST ON THESE TWO QUESTIONS AND REPORT THEIR VIEWS.

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